

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding Advisory Action mailed December 8, 2005. Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 1, 3 – 9, 11 – 13, 24, 26 and 29, 30 and 32 remain pending. In particular, Applicants have amended claims 1, 24 and 32, and have canceled claims 31 and 33 without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Applicants have canceled claims 31 and 33 merely to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these canceled claims in a continuing application, if Applicants so choose, and do not intend to dedicate the canceled subject matter to the public. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action and subsequent Advisory Action indicate that the pending claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over various combinations of *Levine, Yeung, Sugishima* and *Duke*. The Advisory Action also indicates that claims 1 and 24 would be allowable if amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 31 – 33 as suggested by Examiner Gillis during a phone conversation with Applicants' attorney. With respect to claims 13 and 33, Applicants have canceled these claims and respectfully assert that the rejections as to these claims have been rendered moot. With respect to the remaining claims, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

In this regard, Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the features previously recited in claims 31 and 33, and have amended claim 24 to recite features previously recited in claims 31 and 33.

Thus, with respect to claim 1, Applicants have amended that claim to recite:

1. A method for intelligently routing hard-copy generation tasks, comprising:
 - accessing imaging service data from a network connected computing device;
 - accessing imaging data from at least one store, via the network and using an imaging extension, to generate at least one criterion; and
 - recommending at least one hard-copy generation service capable of performing a particular hard-copy generation task matching the at least one criterion,***
 - wherein recommending comprises presenting a plurality of user selectable destinations; and***
 - wherein the at least one criterion identifies a parameter range comprising a measure of color information.***

(Emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully assert that the cited art, either individually or in combination, is legally deficient for the purpose of rendering claim 1 unpatentable. In particular, Applicants respectfully assert that the cited art does not teach or reasonably suggest at least the features/limitations emphasized above in claim 1.

In this regard, Applicants respectfully agree with the contention in the Advisory Action indicating that the cited art does not teach the particular aspects of the recited “criterion” as defined in previous claim 33. Therefore, since claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations previously recited in claim 33, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 24, Applicants have amended that claim to recite:

24. (Currently Amended) A method for assisting a user in selecting a hardcopy generation service, comprising:
 - accessing imaging data stored in a personal image repository using an imaging extension;
 - formulating at least one criterion reflective of the imaging data;
 - accessing information reflective of a plurality of hardcopy generation services;
 - using the at least one criterion to identify hardcopy generation services;***
 - recommending the identified hardcopy generation services to the user;***
 - receiving a user preference; and***

identifying at least one recommended service responsive to the user preference;
wherein the at least one criterion identifies a parameter range comprising a measure of color information.

(Emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully assert that the cited art, either individually or in combination, is legally deficient for the purpose of rendering claim 24 unpatentable. In particular, Applicants respectfully assert that the cited art does not teach or reasonably suggest at least the features/limitations emphasized above in claim 24.

In this regard, Applicants respectfully agree with the contention in the Advisory Action indicating that the cited art does not teach the particular aspects of the recited “criterion” as defined in previous claim 33. Therefore, since claim 24 has been amended to incorporate the limitations previously recited in claim 33, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 24 is in condition for allowance.

With respect to the rejection of dependent claims asserted in the previous final Office Action, Applicants respectfully assert that the secondary references of *Aiello*, *Mastie* and *King*, either individually or in combination, are legally deficient for the purpose of rendering the pending claims unpatentable. In particular, Applicants respectfully assert that none of the references or combinations thereof teaches or reasonably suggests at least the features/limitations emphasized above in claims 1 or 24 as lacking in the respective asserted combinations. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that these are in condition for allowance. Additionally, these claims recite other features/limitations that can serve as an independent basis for patentability.

Cited Art Made of Record

The cited art made of record has been considered, but is not believed to affect the patentability of the presently pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

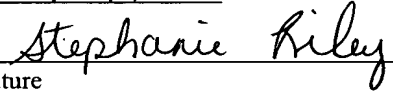
Respectfully submitted,



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